Between the Lines

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THE CHRISTIAN LAYMAN'S INFORMATION SERVICE
CONDENSED, NON-DENOMINATIONAL

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Farce in Bermuda

The greatest crisis in the history of modern Israel is now on, although suppression of news and facts concerning it has successfully kept the situation from being generally known. Four million Jews within the Fortress of Europe are being wiped out at the rate of 6,000 a day. (See report in our last issue). The desperate proportions of this tragedy compelled the United Nations at least to go through the motions of trying to offer some salvation.

All the official releases from Washington to the contrary, the recent Bermuda Conference on the refugee question was a sham and a farce. That is why newsmen were barred and why it was held in an inaccessible place. Nothing was done whatever to answer the cry of the suffering and dying. The Jews want the British to open Palestine to unlimited Jewish immigration so that the millions of Jews caught in the Nazi European trap can be moved down to the Holy Land and there rescued from certain extermination.

To give you an idea of the farce of the Bermuda Conference you may recall the Conference spokesman solemnly declared that nothing could be done to help the Jews because there were no ships to spare from war convoys . . . when it was well known that the Jews could be moved overland to Palestine *without* ships! But anti-semitic influence in America and British imperial politics (which wants to keep peace at any price with the Moslem world because it surrounds the oil fields owned by the British in Persia) played out a hand of political rummy at Bermuda.

Jews in America are running full page ads in large newspapers frantically appealing for world sympathy and attention. Most of these appeals are directed at Mr. Churchill. But Churchill so far has not replied.

Second Front

Behind all of Churchill's fine speeches and the President's able and hopeful announcements, you'd better keep one thing clearly in mind. The Russians are still demanding a real full scale second front that will occupy the attention of as many Nazis as the Russian front—which is several million, as over against the 250,000 total of the enemy we engaged in Africa. If that second front doesn't come and come fairly soon there is going to be trouble with Moscow.

A Washington newsman who is "close in" reports that the reason Churchill has been unwilling to use English troops across the Channel, is based on grounds that they are not sufficiently trained and equipped, and are strong enough only to protect England. It may be that the conversations between Roosevelt and Churchill include use of British troops to invade France. If the invasion army should be preponderantly British, the operation could start fairly soon. If the invasion army is to be 60% American and 40% British, or even 50-50, a second front in France cannot start until we have shipped perhaps a half million men across. Because of submarines, this might mean no front in France this year and that will mean trouble again with Moscow, as we forecast a year ago and as was fulfilled during the uneasy months of the past winter.

Some Things the Public Doesn't Know

VERY FEW OF us realize that a group of lobbyists in Washington, representing the big Southern planters and big Northern incorporated land owners, recently pushed through Congress a bill destroying the Farm Security Administration which has aided in the rehabilitation of thousands of small, impoverished farmers, tenants and sharecroppers. Big business, as represented in the land, sabotaged one of the most progressive reforms our government has accomplished. The FSA had made mistakes but it was also correcting long-standing evils. Greed stabbed progress while the nation slept. See more details elsewhere in this issue.

MENTAL CASUALTIES. This war is causing more mental casualties by far among our troops than any other war in our history. In spite of severe government censorship over this situation, the facts have leaked out here and there. A marine commander on the west coast, reporting on Pacific fighting said: "Weight losses in muscular, toughened young adults ran as high as 45 pounds, rain, heat, insects, dysentery, malaria, all contributed—but the end result was not infection or disease but a disorder of thinking and living—of even wanting to live. Help promised did not arrive. Some were sure that none of them would survive—they were expendable—doomed."

Even after the men were rescued, hospitalized and apparently cured, they still could not return to emotional stability. We cannot tell you more but it is a situation that will result in dreadful cost, building high the tidal wave of bitterness and disillusionment we predict will sweep this country when the war is over. War is a preventable crime. When it has been committed, the biggest part of its cost cannot be paid in paper money.

THE DUKE OF WINDSOR is still one of the biggest factors in world politics. Heavy British censorship keeps that from being known. The luckiest thing that could have happened for the British aristocracy and conservatives was the fact that Edward VIII married a woman unacceptable to them and gave them a real issue to use to pry him from the throne. They wanted a king who would stay home, keep his mouth shut and especially not start cleaning up the slums from which the rich of England drew so much of their fortunes.

Not only did Windsor go to night clubs and cut capers, he also started to clean up slums and made speeches about freedom for enslaved peoples. What the average person doesn't know is that the English conservatives still fear him mightily. They are afraid he and the Duchess will yet have a son. The former King's continued popularity with the mass of common English workers, if it should be augmented by the arrival of a son (the present King has two daughters), would be such a silent threat to the stability of the present economic and political set up in England that any Englishman who earns over $5 a day simply can't stand to talk about it. If you doubt this, talk to some of the low-paid English seamen from merchant ships around the docks of our harbors.

A newsman from Washington reported that when the Duke and Duchess entered the Capitol chambers where Churchill was to speak before the Congress, the Duke's arrival stole the show from the Prime Minister. Said the newsman: "I turned to a London correspondent sitting by my side in the press gallery and remarked that the Duke and Duchess of Windsor caused more interest than any Britons on Capitol Hill. He replied, 'That's true. And the same thing would happen in England—that's why we won't let him and the Duchess go back there.' "

ON THE DISSOLUTION of the World Communist Revolutionary Party, called the Third International, which was played up so largely by official Washington's channels and through the press generally, we would like to inform our readers that information from our listening posts within the communist movement run quite contrary to the general theme that the world revolutionary policy has been abandoned by the communists of the world. In view of the fact that our reports to you from such sources in the past have proven to be remarkably accurate in their forecasts, although usually, as in this instance they run contrary to the general accepted reports, we venture to inform you again that "things are not what they seem to be."

Here is what is behind the move in Moscow on the part of Stalin to dissolve the world revolutionary aims of the Soviet:

The move was brought about by pressure from the White House, the President's belief being that the threatened break-up of post-war peace plans could be checked if the fear of communism was reduced among the small nations of Europe. Also it would help to reduce the fear of post-war communistic influence in America.

But the atmosphere of resignation and surrendering of activity on the part of the world-minded communists, as played up in the news here, is a gross exaggeration and a dangerously false interpretation. It has *always* been against the Stalin policy to use the Russian army to promote revolution outside of Russia. Hence Stalin has made it clear many times that he does not intend to invade Europe from the east. It was the inside work of the world wide communist party—the Third International—which would promote revolution from *within*. And the big fact behind all this is that the communist organizations within England, France, America, China, etc., are *now so well established, so well rooted and well organized that it has been apparent to communist circles for a long time that there was no need for the maintenance of the Moscow directorate* which obviously stood in the way of Russia's political relationship with the outside world.

(*Continued on next page*)

Conflict

The pressure interests of the Moscow-Soviet regime and British aristocracy on our press is so great that the average American cannot get an accurate picture of the real facts.

The British government is desperately trying behind the scenes to strengthen the hand of the aristocratic groups of Europe, hoping thus to forestall a Moscow-inspired popular social revolution from sweeping the continent after the war, and it has financed and politically supported the governments in exile of European countries to this end. Moscow has used money and influence to try to undermine the authority and work of these exiled governments while, at the same time, it has been strengthening the revolutionary forces working under the surface.

This is the great political conflict going on beneath all the high-sounding conferences and agreements between London, Moscow and Washington.

It is well known in diplomatic circles that Stalin does not like Churchill, that their viewpoints and personalities clashed during Churchill's visit to Moscow. It is being said that it is this situation (Churchill versus Stalin) that has kept the London, Washington, Moscow governments from being drawn closer together. Stalin has shown a tendency to respond to Roosevelt but he seems inclined to discount any hope of being able to maintain satisfactory relations with Britain.

Whiskey at Hot Springs

You have every reason to be concerned over the trend to exclude the public and its newsgatherers from such important meetings and conferences as the Bermuda Refugee meeting and the United Nations Conference on Food. At the latter, bayonets were used to keep the public and newspaper men out and to keep 200 crates of whiskey in. (The whiskey was furnished gratis by our government and in direct violation of the laws of Virginia.) How do you feel, Christian Americans, when you pray for peace through a conference like that?

Payment from Finland

An interesting example of how war affects truth and how things are twisted in the propaganda field, is found in the facts concerning Finland, which despite all its troubles, recently raked together $474,000 and paid it over to our Export-Import Bank. This represented the interest due on the $26,000,000 we advanced to Finland back in the winter of 1940 for purchase of food, clothing and other civilian supplies to aid a populace battling against what President Roosevelt damned as the "wanton invasion" by Soviet Russia.

Now the interesting part of this is that no public announcement was made by our

Some Things the Public Doesn't Know

(Continued from first page)

The impression now being given out by Washington spokesmen and many commentators is absolutely contrary to what, upon inquiry, communist leaders are saying quietly. The Russians and communists are masters of intrigue. It will be extremely simple for them to maintain all the necessary contacts and support through the usual diplomatic channels.

The only hope for the defense of America against communism is still to be found in a "spiritual revolution" to forestall a political revolution—to change men's hearts and minds until greed and racial prejudice will be swept away. Bitter and hungry men and their families will then not be interested in the voices that whisper to them how a world can be changed by bombs, for their world will already have been changed by a cross.

Hate Campaign

With our official propagandists in Washington driving the country nuts over the air and through the movies and press in promoting racial hatred, John G. Winant, Ambassador to Great Britain, believes we can do a better job in the war by deleting hysterical hatred for the enemy.

The British tried a "hate campaign" which was vigorously protested by General Bernard C. T. Paget, a high military authority. The campaign was unsuccessful and was given up.

Mr. Winant endorses the statement of the recent Archbishop of Canterbury that revenge and retribution are very different objectives. Revenge is the bitter return of evil for evil. Retribution is the inevitable and just punishment for evil. It is firmly held by thinking Englishmen, Mr. Winant believes, that fighting for a just cause makes a man a better soldier than fighting with a blind and vindictive hatred for the enemy.

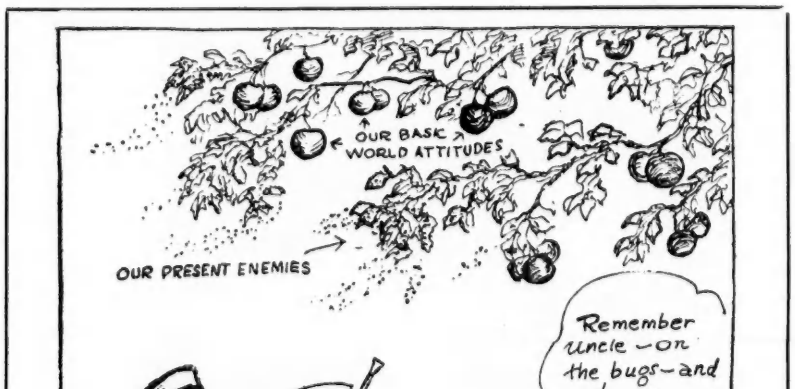
Bring Christianity into Citizenship

Lawrence H. Smith, member of the United States Congress and distinguished Christian layman, ended a report on peace plans to his constituency with these words:

"Test the intent of every sentence, every paragraph with the question: Does it square with the Christ principle? That is the only sure way to achieve lasting peace."

If we had more men in Washington thinking like that our world would soon throb with a transfusion of fresh hope. Why don't we have more men like that in Congress? Because Christian laymen do not take their obligations of citizenship into their Christian consecration. They do not take the time and effort to know for whom they are voting. The Christian is unworthy of the name when he votes the indifferent and lazy way of following the machine politics that are in control of much of America's political life. What good do our prayers for a better world do when we fail at this important point? Can we ask God to help us when we will not help ourselves?

America needs a revival that will convert sinners, but we also need a revival that will convert professing Christians to a recognition of their responsibility to the community and state in terms of Christian citizenship.



Vital Federal Programs Abolished

A bill has been up before the Houses of Congress that throws the spotlight on how blocs of greed and special privilege will sabotage social progress to protect their gains even when it literally means taking milk away from the babies of poor families.

The Agricultural Appropriations bill, which was introduced and put through by what one editor calls "the clique of Bourbons", cuts out the serving of hot lunches and penny milk for school children. It has been proven again and again—and government surveys provide the burden of the proof—that the foods provided at school for underprivileged children are the only means of supplying this required nutrition. The families of these children are completely unable to buy the needed foods. It has been reported that hundreds of children in the Chicago area alone could not remember ever having had butter or milk until the federal program was started in the schools.

The bill eliminating this public service was passed in the name of economy but it is a poor sort of economy that undermines the health of a future generation. One editor has pointed out that "during the same week that the House voted to pinch pennies from the school lunch program, the Selective Service Administration revealed that 42% of all the men eligible for military service have been rejected because of poor health. By the end of this year, it was estimated, 9,000,000 American young men—supposedly in the prime of life—will have been rejected, many of them because years of insufficient diet and inadequate medical care have left them in poor health. We are paying a fearful price today for having allowed one-third of the nation to remain ill-fed, ill-housed and ill-clad for so long. The Congressional Tories are determined, it seems, to make the ultimate cost even greater by resorting to a short-sighted policy of squeezing nickels when the health and well-being of thousands of tomorrow's citizens are at stake."

The Congress also showed little judgment when it proposed to end the work of the Farm Security Administration. This definitely hits at the small farmer and indirectly aids the big planter interests of the South and the large agricultural corporations of the North.

The FSA has done a great job in helping small farmers, tenants and sharecroppers to get on their feet. It supplied them with badly needed loans to buy equipment, seeds, supplies, etc. Ninety percent of the loans were paid back when they became due and the encouragement and incentive thus engendered by the loans resulted in a substantial increase in food production on the part of the now independent and self-reliant farmers.

It is this independence and self-reliance which the big planters and large-scale corporate agricultural interests wish to prevent

dent Roosevelt damned as the "wanton invasion" by Soviet Russia.

Now the interesting part of this is that no public announcement was made by our government of the determination by Finland —only European nation to keep up payments on World War I debts—to maintain her reputation for honest dealing.

One blunt gentleman in Washington says that it was orders from on high not to send out any official announcements that would awaken this nation's traditional respect and affection for Finland. A newsman in Washington reported that he wondered why the Finns hadn't tooted their own horn and sent out an announcement of their payment themselves. In the State Department, it was learned that the Finns, because they are at war with Russia, are not supposed to make any statements from their legation here.

So the reporter got in touch with Counselor Toivola of the Finnish legation. Yes, Finland had paid its May 1 installment as agreed and was happy to be able to keep its promises to this government, said M. Toivola. No, they hadn't made any public announcement of the fact. That wouldn't be proper, they understood, under the circumstances.

M. Toivola was asked about Finland's war debt payments. F. D. R. has taken the initiative in having Finland's regular installment set aside to care for the destitute left in the wake of the Russian invasion. This welcome moratorium of 1940, granted by a joint resolution of Congress, expires June 15.

"Will you resume payment at that time?"

"Certainly. My country will always meet its obligations so long as it is humanly possible," replied M. Toivola.

We think this report should be printed. The Finns can't announce it. Our propaganda experts have decided the government shouldn't.

War Profits in Britain

The British Admiralty investigated the cost of building fighting ships, including a battleship, an aircraft carrier, cruisers, submarines, etc., and found that profits on such construction run as high as 80%. Shipbuilders claim that the thirty-two warships under investigation were not representative, citing as examples twenty-four other ships on which the profits fell under 20%.

The Admiralty report states that in one instance the profit exceeded 80%, in two cases was over 70%, in two cases was between 50% and 70%, from 40% to 50% in two, from 30% to 40% in seven, from 20% to 30% in nine and from 10% to 20% in five. In four cases the profit was less than 10%.

Restrictions are being enforced to prevent similar high profits in the future.

IT'S HARD TO CONTROL POISONOUS SPRAY

The religious leaders of America are rendering inestimable service to our nation today by keeping alive the consciousness that hatred is a dangerous poison, for the poisons of hatred created in the last war destroyed the peace that followed. If we use hatred, we must control it. If we do not control it, we will destroy ourselves when we try to gather the fruits of peace. Some of the most dangerous voices in America today are those who thoughtlessly shout the virtues of hate without concern over its grave dangers. But Uncle Sam is wise and listens also to those voices of caution who know the spiritual weaknesses of man and can guide us through these dangerous days. It has always been the voice of spiritual leadership that has saved man from the disastrous consequences of his own extremes.

Cradle to Grave

There is a lot of confusion over the cradle to grave social security program of the government recently proposed by the President for post-war achievement. We are indebted to Congressman Lawrence Smith for the following brief clear outline of the proposals involved in this new economy. It is important material for Christian study groups. Bring it before your Sunday school class when things get dull. Be sure your pastor is familiar with these details. It is the shape of things to come:

1. Benefit payments to workers under social security who become ill or disabled.
2. Federal aid to qualified youths who desire college training.
3. Extension of social security to some classes now exempt.
4. Aid to local communities to build hospitals as part of a broad health program including government cooperation with the medical profession in a plan for patients to pay medical expenses on a "budget plan."
5. Greater assistance to the aged, blind and other groups receiving public assistance.
6. Free lunches for all school children.

In going from a war to a peace economy, it is proposed:

1. Guarantee every man released from armed forces or war plants a job with "fair pay and working conditions."
2. Continue rationing and other wartime restrictions as long as necessary.
3. Give labor "responsibility in organization and sharing in management."
4. Consolidation of railroads into a limited number of regional systems.
5. Government-private partnership in some plant and facilities with government deciding what concerns should be left operating in such fields as aircraft, shipbuilding, aluminum and magnesium.

The cost? Nobody seems to know. Best estimates to date are between seven and fifteen billion dollars a year.

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It is this independence and self-reliance which the big planters and large-scale corporate agricultural interests wish to prevent for it cuts deeply into their power.

Negroes in War Time

Some negro leaders in America and their friends—including the radicals and the "reasonables"—are using many channels to bring forward outstanding facts concerning the present relationship of the American negro to democracy. It is claimed that three-quarters of the negroes in the Army are serving as servants and laborers; that even dead negroes are segregated in Arlington Cemetery; that although only 9.8% of the population is colored, 16.1% of all volunteers for the Army in 1940-41 were negroes; that many negro flyers have been ready for duty for months; and that not one negro flyer has been permitted to see combat duty although flyers are desperately needed.

Aluminum Loan

Little, if any, information has reached the American people of the loan made by the RFC to Aluminum, Ltd. There is good reason to keep the matter quiet. In the first place, Aluminum, Ltd. is simply the Canadian Aluminum Company of America; in the second place, the loan—$68,500,000 worth—was made interest free; and in the third place, high priority materials have been made available for a construction program of the Canadian Aluminum Company.

The report is that Jesse Jones, of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, because of his well-known interest in the Aluminum Company of America, was easily persuaded to turn over these 68½ million of American dollars to the Canadian firm. Mr. Jones is famous for granting substantial loans to large and powerful corporations. Little businesses, after putting up a fight for needed funds, have to meet their interest payments on the dot, but the Canadian corporation will not have any such worries.

Aluminum Ltd. sought the American loan in order to build a private power project in Quebec Province. It found that it could obtain not only money but also critical materials through influential friends in Washington. The privately owned Canadian outfit has been able to get equipment and vital materials which have been refused public power plants in our own country.

Attempts are being made in the House of Representatives to create a special investigating committee to check into the details of this deal, but those who know say a powerful Wall Street-Tory group is in a position to bloc any such inquiry.

Test Cases

The test case of Gordon Hirabayashi versus the United States, upon the decision of which hangs the constitutionality of the whole west coast evacuation procedure, is now being heard by the United States Supreme Court, an action almost unprecedented in the swiftness with which it reached the highest tribunal.

Hirabayashi, Japanese senior at the University of Washington, refused to obey the evacuation and other restrictive orders when they were applied to residents on the west coast who were of Japanese descent. His case is being financed throughout by contributions from the Fellowship of Reconciliation members and from members of the Society of Friends and the American Civil Liberties Union.

This important legal test will have far-reaching effect upon the status of the loyal Japanese American born citizen whose constitutional rights have been so ruthlessly brushed aside on the grounds of military necessity.

However, it may prove to be like the situation in India, where 80,000 Indians are being held in prison without trial under a British imperial ruling which was recently declared illegal by *British court authorities.*

We can present a brighter side of the picture, however, by reminding you of the significant decision that was reached by the judges of the Ninth Federal Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco. Requested, to all intents and purposes, by the attorneys of an organization called "The Native Sons of the Golden West" to rescind the citizenship of American-born Japanese, the seven judges of the court, without leaving the bench and without a dissenting voice, refused even to consider the motion. Trouble-breeding intolerance *is* being stemmed.

Another indication that the tide of race hysteria is turning is shown by another court decision. A San Franciscan, John T. Regan, endeavored to secure a court ruling that American born Japanese should not have the privilege of voting as American citizens because "dishonesty, deceit and hypocrisy are racial characteristics of the Japanese". The District Court dismissed Mr. Regan's suit and its action was upheld by higher courts. This decision definitely proclaims the right of Japanese, born in America, to full citizenship.

Many of the most staunch defenders of the American-born Japanese in our Japanese concentration camps are government officials and workers assigned from Washington to duty in these evacuee camps. Miss Sally Lucas Jean, government consultant in health education and supervisor of health conditions at a Japanese relocation camp in Arizona, recently declared that a large pool of manpower is not being utilized. The Japanese with whom she is working are engaged in reclamation work in a desert-like area and Miss Jean claims that full use is not being made of available skills. Intimating that our prejudicial attitude toward our own minority groups in this country is a distinct threat to our democracy—the thing we are fighting for, Miss Jean said, "We have a tremendous responsibility as individuals to dispell our prejudices. These people with Japanese ancestries are victims of circumstances. For our enemies are their enemies too."

Repeal Exclusion Act

Congressman Walter Judd of Minnesota, for years a missionary doctor in China, a man of great ability and courage, is introducing a bill in Congress for the repeal of Asiatic Exclusion and putting immigration from that continent on the same basis as European nations. This bill is sure to arouse all the old hates in the country. Get behind Dr. Judd and urge your Congressman to support his bill. It simply requires that we should treat our Chinese allies with the same legal respect we do other races. After the war it will provide a basis for reasonable interracial relations with the nations of Asia.

Gandhi a Traitor?

Britain's white paper on Gandhi has fallen flat, and little wonder, for it could not do much to counteract the admission that more than a thousand unarmed Indian Patrick Henrys have been killed, nearly a thousand flogged, and 70,000 imprisoned without a trial or hearing to separate the guilty from the innocent.

It is a dirty war . . . we are horrified by what happens in Poland, Norway, France and Holland. When the war is over and the truth can be told, the story of India will be put down beside all the other horrors. Killing and flogging and imprisoning thousands in the name of democracy and the four freedoms makes a shameless hypocrisy of what is otherwise justifiable in the war.

And don't be fooled by the statements that the Indians can have their freedom when they can unite on a plan among themselves. The suppressed truth is that the thousands in prison, which includes most of India's leadership, are not allowed to see each other nor to be seen by others from the outside! No representatives of the great Hindu Mahasabha or any other political group are allowed to confer.

The American envoy to India, William Philips, endeavored to secure an interview in prison with Gandhi and Nehru to learn what they had to say about the matter but was unable to gain permission for such a visit from the British government. British officials, however, talked for weeks on the purity of their purpose in the flogging, shooting and imprisoning.

Mr. L. S. Amery, who has openly admitting his responsibility for the floggings, said that since Gandhi is considered a traitor, he cannot be permitted visits from representatives of a foreign government. This delineation of Gandhi as traitor is the idea of the group which is the guardian of British investments in India for the highest court of India, established by the British government itself and presided over by an English judge, ruled that the imprisonment without trial of Gandhi, Nehru and their followers, was completely illegal. Ordinarily the result of such a judicial decision would be the freedom of the imprisoned men but British officials in India are still holding Gandhi and Nehru and are now calling them traitors. (So was George Washington a traitor.)

Were the Indian situation a tangle which affected only the British and the Indians, it might be possible to overlook this high-handed imprisonment without trial and disregard of judicial rulings. The fact is, however, that India is a vital factor in a military sense and a non-cooperative, resentful India will enormously increase the difficulties and problems involved in defeating the Japanese.

With all honor to our heroic allies, the common English people, the Christian when he goes to war for the sake of the soul, demands that the war be as clean as possible. The demands of a few British aristocrats that the preservation of their investments in India be above all other aims—above the Atlantic Charter and the hope of a much needed "Pacific Charter",—make this an unnecessarily dirty war.

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